

Message Text

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21

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-20 L-03 AID-20 EB-11 COME-00 IGA-02

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15

PRS-01 SP-03 SAB-01 SCI-06 HEW-08 NSF-04 DRC-01 /131 W

----- 130833

R 222039Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 708

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PANAMA 2940

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, PN

SUBJ: FMD AMENDMENT

REF: A) STATE 103835; B) STATE 92559

BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

1. FOREIGN MINISTRY LEGAL ADVISOR TOLD EMOFF THAT LANGUAGE CONTAINED IN REFTEL B) FOR INITIATION OF EXCHANGE OF NOTES IS ACCEPTABLE. EMBASSY WILL DELIVER SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE'S LETTER AS SOON AS IT ARRIVES AND IMMEDIATELY THEREAFTER PROCEED WITH EXCHANGE OF NOTES.

2. GOP GAVE AMBASSADOR AND MINISTER'S INITIALING OF AMENDMENT FRONT-PAGE COVERAGE IN MAJOR NEWSPAPERS INCLUDING PICTURES ON APRIL 26 AND PLANS NO FURTHER PUBLICITY. EMBASSY'S TRANSLATION OF TEXT OF MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT PRESS RELEASE FOLLOWS: END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED (HEADLINE:) "ANTI-FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE COOPERATION BETWEEN PANAMA AND THE UNITED STATES."

(TEXT) "AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND PANAMA TO REINFORCE THE PROGRAM FOR CONTROL OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH
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DISEASE WAS FORMALIZED YESTERDAY MORNING BY THE MINISTER OF

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT, LIC. GERARDO GONZALEZ AND THE AMBASSADOR OF THE UNITED STATES, MR. WILLIAM JORDEN. IN IT THE COOPERATION OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS WAS STIMULATED BY MEANS OF PROPORTIONAL ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT. FOR PANAMA THIS INVOLVES THE PROVIDING OF FINANCING, SPECIALISTS AND INSTALLATIONS. IT ALSO IMPLIES AN 8-FOLD INCREASE IN THE ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF THE UNITED STATES WHICH WILL NOW RISE TO MORE THAN B/800,000.

"THE DOCUMENT SIGNED TODAY IS THE FIRST PIECE OF OFFICIAL BUSINESS SIGNED BY MR. JORDEN AS AMBASSADOR. IT IS A RESULT OF STRINGENT PREVENTATIVE MEASURES THAT PANAMA AND COUNTRIES TO THE NORTH, AND THOSE IN THE CARIBBEAN, ALL OF WHICH ARE FREE OF FOOT-AND-MLUTH DISEASE, ARE PREPARING TO ADOPT IN ORDER TO FACE THE SEVERE DANGER OF CONTAGION WHICH COULD ARISE ONCE THE NATURAL BARRIER OF THE DARIEN GAP CEASES TO EXIST UPON COMPLETION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN HIGHWAY IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

"AFTER THE SIGNING OF THE DOCUMENT, AMBASSADOR JORDEN HAD A FRIENDLY INFORMAL CHAT WITH MINISTER GONZALEZ." END UNCLASSIFIED.

JORDEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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